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## Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Olympic Cellars' Kathy Charlton to Receive Women for WineSense Rising Star Award

**Port Angeles, Wash., June 18, 2007** – Women for WineSense (WWS), the premier national education and networking organization for wine aficionados and industry professionals, has selected Kathy Charlton, owner of Olympic Cellars Winery in Port Angeles, to receive the organization's *Rising Star Award*. The award honors the next generation of exceptional women in the wine industry. Previously presented exclusively to Rising Stars in California's wine industry, 2007 marks the first year that WWS will recognize women from different regions across the United States. The awards will be co-presented by Margrit Mondavi and Ambassador Kathryn Hall on Saturday, June 23 during the *Wines Women Want!*™ Grand Tasting event in San Francisco.

Charlton was selected for "star power," demonstrated through over-the-top marketing innovation, such as the winery's annual *Working Girl NO LABOR Day* (a self-designated "holiday" for women), a strong commitment to philanthropy and a focus on making wine more approachable – all of which have contributed to her success in turning Olympic Cellars around and taking the business to new heights. In just six short years, annual production of Olympic Cellars' *Working Girl*® wines (a series created by Charlton with co-owners Molly Rivard and Libby Sweetser) has jumped from 450 cases to 11,000 cases and undergone a national rollout.

A key WWS criterion for rising star status is service as a role model to other women in the field. Charlton's successful mid-life career change from Texas Instruments executive to winery owner/manager was a qualifying factor, along with her steadfast commitment to serving women and families through philanthropy. Charlton's two signature charitable programs, *Charity of Choice* and *2X Success*™ made her a rising star in her local community years ago.

Others receiving the 2007 WWS Rising Star Award include best selling author and television host Leslie Sbrocco and Ann Roncone, owner of Lightning Ridge Cellars in Arizona. A lifetime

achievement award will be presented to Carole Meredith, retired UC Davis professor, plant geneticist and owner, Lagier-Meredith Winery. Women for WineSense will honor Margrit Mondavi as its first inductee into the Women for WineSense Hall of Fame, to be permanently housed at COPIA The American Center for Wine, Food and the Arts, in the Napa Valley.

### **About Women for WineSense**

Founded in 1990, Women for WineSense (WWS) is the premier national grassroots organization dedicated to educating consumers about the pleasures and benefits of moderate wine enjoyment. WWS offers outstanding programs, member benefits and networking opportunities to industry professionals and wine enthusiasts.

### **About Olympic Cellars**

Olympic Cellars is a boutique winery housed in an historic century-old barn between Port Angeles and Sequim on Washington's Olympic Peninsula. The winery annually produces approximately 3,500 cases of handcrafted wines on site, including the premium La Dolce Vida label, the Working Girl series, and the Dungeness artist series. Olympic Cellars is strongly committed to supporting the physical and emotional well-being of women through its Charity of Choice and 2X Success initiatives.

Find out more about Olympic Cellars and its upcoming events by visiting the winery's website at [www.olympiccellars.com](http://www.olympiccellars.com), or by calling 360-452-0160. Also visit the new Working Girl® website, [www.workinggirlwines.com](http://www.workinggirlwines.com), for information pertaining specifically to the Working Girl series of wines and associated philanthropic programs.

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